

# NEW-YORK TRIBUNE.

FRANCE.

Interesting Sale—Strawberries—New way of Thieving—Capital Punishment—Narcotic, &c., &c.

Correspondence of The Tribune.

PARIS, Thursday, June 19, 1851.

An interesting sale—Strawberries—New way of

Thieving—Capital Punishment—Narcotic, &c., &c.

The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, incorporated on the 16th of June, 1761, having completed the labor of 150 years, celebrated its Third Jubilee on Monday, and a Sermon was preached on the occasion by the Bishop of London—Westminster Abbey. A public meeting at St. Martin's Hall followed on Tuesday, when Prince Albert took part in the ceremonies.

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The road is not quite twice as long as it was last year.

The earnings of the Central Michigan Road for June are, in round numbers, \$105,000, against \$70,000 in June, 1850, an increase of \$35,000, or 50 per cent.

The Harlem Road is now in operation to Amenia, ten miles north of Dover Plains. The extension toward Chatham is progressing with great energy.

Two important public meetings, in support of Mr. Cobden's motion in favor of arbitration, were held on Monday, at Manchester and Leeds respectively—the former was called at the requisition of 200 inhabitants, and held in the Town-hall, with the Mayor in the Chair.

The State Fancy Ball which had been rehearsal at Sutherland-house early in the week came off on the 26th at Buckingham Palace, and the formal entertainment was of the time of the Restoration, which gave an opportunity for great display, especially of male costume. The dresses of the ladies, it was conjectured, approached very nearly to those of the present day. The military and judicial officers appeared in the official habits of the period, as did the ambassadors. A solid glass decanter, of the most transparent crystal, without scratch, or flaw, is certainly no dear at four francs.

The Duke of Northumberland has issued instructions to his agents in every county to select from each of his estates a certain number of carpenters, artisans and intelligent farm servants, to the number in all of about 150, for whom the Duke has made arrangements to defray the expenses, not only of their journeys to and from London, but also for their maintenance during their stay here, in order that they may have an opportunity of inspecting the Crystal Palace. Similar instructions have been given to the agents on the other estates of the Duke.

The London Committee of the Social Progressives have not published a series of six tracts, written by Mr. Green, addressed to the people assembled at the Exhibition. The Committee are about to publish French and German translations of the same, for distribution among the natives of those countries who may visit London during the year.

—Five Hungarian Refugees left Southampton on Wednesday for Portsmouth, to embark on board the emigrant ship Black Eagle, bound for America. They have been allowed by the English Government, but we are not all so hopeless as the captain of free government here. There are many of us yet who believe that the reign of Louis Philippe will remain a long time upon the shelves of the curiosities before they are joined by the cups and saucers of the Republic Francaise.

By the time this reaches you, New-York will be in the hey-day of the strawberry season. The Biennium of *The Tribune*—that man about town who seems to sleep with his eyes open, and to be in search of eight locatees at once—ought to be able to cast a glance at the effects and markets of Paris, to imbue the necessary inspiration for a grand Strawberry Lyrical. Gracious as the railroads leading to the Empire City do, and fragrant as the environs of the fruit-stalls are, with the intense heat that invades the mosaics and saturates the air, the American strawberry must yield the palm to its kith and kin of Paris, for size, flavor, color, and, above all, for the Princess species, which consists of a pyramid two inches high, and two inches in diameter at the top, which is redder than anything mortal we ever saw in the outside, and about the complexion of a pale cheek on the inside—is the greatest gift of a benign Providence. I should consider this assertion profane, if it was original—but it is not, being borrowed from Lady Gay Spanker who was going into ecstasies over foxes. Of such strawberries you must make two bites, spite of the cherries—or else you may taste them raw. The French rarely, if ever, take milk or cream with them. They prefer either sugar alone or sugar and red wine. Kirschwasser is a favorite substitute for sugar, but it is an acquired taste like tomatoes. In short, if you want to see, smell, taste and believe in strawberries, you must come to Paris.

The Police have just discovered a new article in the great science of counterfeiting applied to the manufacture employed by chevaliers d'Industrie. Mr. Maitre sought to be on his guard, for Paris sets the fashions, and New-York follows them. The process is simply this: A well-dressed man enters a jeweler's shop, and goes into a somewhat minute examination of the stock, without, however, finding anything to his taste. Unwilling to give the jeweler so much trouble to no purpose, he makes some slight purchase, and takes his purse to a pawnshop, with whom comes into the shop, and soon enough to the love of God! The well-dressed man tosses a ten sou piece upon the floor, which the Savoyard seizes and makes off in contempt. At this moment the jeweler perceives that his most valuable breast-pin or ring has disappeared from the counter. The stranger sits on being searched, and upon the jeweler's returning so do, dare-devils, and the star still abides as far as he is concerned, is removed.

The shopkeeper, red with shame at finding in the pockets of so well-dressed a man, at last compiles: It is needless to say that no breast-pin is found. The stranger retires triumphant. Spite of this, however, this same stranger is the thief. The hand that sought the purse to pay for the object purchased, was closed upon the breast-pin and gone. The well-dressed man, however, had a full length of his leg, and felt himself on the floor. The chimney-sweep, who by the way, is not a mere a chimey-sweep than you are, in possessing himself of the ten sou piece, grabbed the breast-pin, and made off with this double booty. The clear conscience and the stern integrity of the well-dressed man are thus easily understood. The two accomplices, who generally bear the chivalry of assassination, one to the other, of father and son, performed in this way, with more or less success, till one misstep, or very slight indiscretion, brings the police on their track, and ultimately causes their detection and arrest.

The late execution of Montchambon the condemned article of Charles Hugo, and the verdict of the Jury upon his case, have caused the subject of Capital Punishment to be widely and seriously discussed. Previous to 1832, all persons found guilty were executed. Since that time, recognition of the right of admissions of executing capital punishment and commutation of punishment have largely diminished the number of executions. On this point the *Gazette des Tribunaux* gives the following figures: "The annual average of condemnations to death before 1832 was 110. Since 1832 it has been only 19. If it were true, therefore, that the diminution of the penalty causes inevitably a diminution of crime—if it be true that to demolish the scaffold is to disarm the assassin—we ought to find the amount of condemned犯人) reduced to 1832, or even to 1833. The case of 1832 is 1830, the annual average number of accusations for partridge was 14; since 1832 it is 23; for poaching it was 37, and it has increased to 43; for assassination, it was 25 and it has increased to 39; for infanticide it was 103, and it has increased to 110. Thus, when the average of capital condemnation was 110, the average of capital accusations was 571; when the average of condemned犯人) fails to 49, the average of accusations rises to 82—this is to say, that annually increases one-half when punishment diminishes in the same proportion. Such are the facts, such are the figures, such is the truth."

Mr. Alphonse Karr, a wit and penitent by profession, says in the column of the *National*, a paper advocating the abolition of capital punishment: "For myself, I say, if the infliction of the pain of death is to be done away with let the assassins set the example. This is an epigram of the first water in France, but it rather loses it force in translation."—*Si l'en tirent au-delà de la mort, que meurtres ils assassinent.*

Experiments upon the effects of mescaline, the new poison brought into notice by the trial of the Count de Beccane, are being made in various cities of the continent. A day or two ago, it was tried on dogs, cats and hens, at Brussels, with most decided results. Two drops caused the speedy death of a hen, and the instantaneous death of a cock. Several drops mixed with ether, and given to a small dog, caused sudden convulsions of the muscles, and death. A drop of this dose of vinegar caused him to revive, momentarily, but he died soon after. A bear dog, who was forced to swallow ten drops of mescaline, struggled against its effects for a full quarter of an hour. A cat that had swallowed four drops, ran four times round the room, and then jumped out of the window. The physicians, who performed these experiments, were to a good post-treatment of the animal, to draw it dead from the effects of mescaline. This poison has the appearance of mafra wine and the smell of ammonia.

It has been an immemorial custom among the ambling umbrella-makers and makers and menders of coats for bath-tubs, and spouts for sinks, and taps for wine casks, to announce their passage along the various streets by playing on the cornet-a-piston or the key-bugle. This was as indicative of the presence of the musician, as a bird in the mouth can give notice of the coming of a hawk, just as surely as means oysters. But as all these pedestrian tradesmen played the same air, and never by chance any other—the famous refrain of *Le Bon Joli Baguet*, synonymous with Old King Cole—the Prefect of Police found it tiresome, and so henceforth it is forbidden. The edict includes all wind instruments in the category of contraband music. If it only embraced all hand-organs that play Jeannette and Joannet, it would considerably shorten the list of prohibited articles.

There was a fair degree of firmness in the fancy Stock Market to-day, and several descriptions improved. Eric was among the most buoyant, and closed at \$14, an improvement of 14 p cent. Hanover was also buoyant, and improved 4 p cent. Long Island advanced 1, and was in better inquiry. Reading, with considerable sales, closed at yesterday's rates. Eric Securities were firm. Canton and Norwalk were heavy. The latter sold as low as \$44, dividend 11 p cent off, showing a decline of 3 p cent since yesterday. A bear sale was made at 50, seller 12 mos. The cause of the decline is the disappointment in relation to the dividend which is 1 to 4 p cent less than was anticipated. The explanation of Company for this small dividend is, that the expenses have been larger than calculated upon. The service has been 23,000 miles greater than the same period of last year, a third accommodation train having been put on which has not been profitable and will we understand be discontinued. An error in the fuel account of some \$4,000, has been discovered, and this, with some damages paid for injuries received on the road and some considerable repairs have used up so much of the earnings that no larger dividend could be made. The receipts of the Company for the year ended Dec. 31, 1850, were \$10,000,000, and the net profit \$1,000,000, or 10 p cent. The market is very quiet, and the price of Eric has been 100,000 shares at \$14 1/2, to 14 1/4.

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